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SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, just to finish a couple of paragraphs here, I think they're important. And if Senator Wickersham would like the remainder of my time, I would be glad to give it to him. Reading from the report: The small growth in the incomes of low-income families, the bottom fifth, over the last decade was not enough to make up for the decline in incomes during the previous decade. Nationwide, from the late 1970s to the late 1990s the average income of the lowest income families fell over by...fell by over 6 percent after....after adjustment for inflation. And the average real income of the middle fifth of families grew by about 5 percent. By contrast, the average real income of the highest income fifth of families increased by over 30 percent. The trend has been widespread. Senator Brashear, let me ask you a question, if I may.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Brashear, would you respond?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR BEUTLER: You heard me describe, earlier, the continuing cycles of state incentives that have gone on since at least my time in the Legislature, beginning in the late 1970s, early 1980s. Do you see any curtailment of this cycle? And do you envision that in the next three, four or five years we will have to enact additional business incentives in order to compete with other states?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Beutler, I'm not certain what the end of the cycle will be. It...there...obviously you will reach a point, in a competitive environment, you will reach a point at which the low-cost producer is offering all the incentives that that low-cost producer or provider can offer, and that will establish the bottom or the base. That would be my first point. I'm simply using logic.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: As to your second point, will we have to enact incentives in the future, I don't know. But we may, if the rate and pace of competition keeps up. I was listening to national public radio this morning, and the technological